

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic commerce method for reselling various materials via the Internet, comprising the steps of:
  - by a contractor for designing and selling the material, collecting transaction conditions of the materials from a plurality of material sellers;
  - selecting the best material-seller based on the collected transaction conditions;
  - offering a sales condition presented by the selected best material-seller to a material buyer via the Internet;
  - and
  - by said material buyer,
    - buying a desired material via the Internet based on said sales condition which is offered via the Internet.
2. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
  - by said contractor for designing and selling the material,
  - specifying in advance, a requirement for a technical specification and a requirement for the transaction condition, concerning each item of the material; and
  - selecting one best material-seller for each item based on the specified requirement for the technical specification

and the specified requirement for the transaction condition, concerning each item of the material.

3. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps:

by said contractor for designing and selling the material,

selecting material-seller candidates based on a transaction history and predicting the amount of an annually purchased material;

presenting the amount of the annually purchased material to the material-seller candidates and requesting an offer of a carried-out technical specification of the material and of a carried-out transaction condition of the material;

selecting one best material-seller based on a carried-out technical specification of the material and a carried-out transaction condition of the material, which are offered by said material-seller candidates in response to the request; and

making a yearly contract of a material transaction with the selected best material-seller.

4. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 3, further comprising the steps:

by said contractor for designing and selling the material,

registering the material seller for the yearly contract, and the carried-out technical specification of the material and the carried-out sales condition of the material for transaction with the material seller; and

performing a transaction with the material seller based on the registered content.

5. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

by said contractor for designing and selling the material,

offering the technical specifications and the sales conditions of various materials via the Internet;

by said material buyer,

selecting a desired material based on the technical specifications and the sales conditions of various materials, which are offered via the Internet;

requesting, via the Internet, a quotation of the selected material to said contractor for designing and selling the material;

by said contractor for designing and selling the material,

estimating the material, in response to the request of

the quotation of the material from said material buyer;

offering the estimate concerning the material to said material buyer via the Internet; and

by said material buyer,

ordering the material to said contractor for designing and selling the material after checking the quotation offered thereby.

6. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 5, wherein said quotation is made by exchange converting the subtotal of the material and adding a resale fee to the subtotal of the material which is exchange converted.

7. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 5, further comprising the step of:

by said contractor for designing and selling the material, acting for logistics and schedule control of the material after purchase order of said material buyer as an agent of said material seller.

8. An electronic commerce method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of:

by said contractor for designing and selling the material,

offering, via the Internet, logistics information on

the material after ordering, to said material buyer.

9. An electronic commerce system for reselling various materials via the Internet, comprising:

a material-seller terminal connected to the Internet;

a material-buyer terminal connected to the Internet;

and

a center device connected to the Internet,

wherein said center device comprises:

collecting means for collecting material transaction conditions, of the material seller, which are inputted by said material-seller terminal;

selecting means for selecting a best material-seller based on the material transaction conditions which are collected by said collecting means; and

offering means for offering a sales condition of the best material-transaction condition which is selected by said selecting means to a material seller via the Internet, and

so that said material buyer may buy a desired material via the Internet based on the sales condition which is offered via the Internet by said offering means.

10. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 9, wherein said selecting means has means for determining, in

advance, a requirement for a technical specification and a requirement for a transaction condition, concerning each item of the material, and

has means for selecting the best material-seller for every item based on the determined requirement for the technical specification and the determined requirement for the transaction condition with respect to each item of the material.

11. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 9, wherein said collecting means comprises:

candidate selecting means for selecting candidates of the material seller, which performs a transaction of the material based on a history;

predicting means for predicting the amount of an annually purchased material;

requesting means for presenting the amount of the annually purchased material, which is predicted by said predicting means, to the material-seller candidates selected by said candidate selecting means and requesting the offer of a carried-out technical specification of the material and a carried-out transaction condition of the material; and

input means for inputting the carried-out technical specification of the material and the carried-out transaction condition of the material, which are offered in

response to the requests of said requesting means by said material-seller candidates, and

    said selecting means selects the best material-seller from the material-seller candidates in accordance with an assessment, of the material-seller candidates, which said center device automatically performs or the contractor for designing and selling the material performs based on the carried-out technical specifications and the carried-out transaction conditions, of the material sold by the material-seller candidates, which are inputted by said input means.

12. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 9, wherein said offering means comprises a specification database for storing specification information of the material which is sold by the best material-seller selected by said selecting means, and offers the specification information of the material stored in said specification database and the sales condition via the Internet.

13. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 9, wherein said center device comprises:

    estimating means for accepting the request for quotation, which is inputted by said material-seller terminal, via the Internet and estimating the material which

is designated by said material buyer in response to the accepted request for quotation;

estimate offering means for offering the estimate made by said estimating means to the material-buyer terminal via the Internet; and

order accepting means for accepting an order, of the material, which is inputted by said material-buyer terminal in response to the estimate offered by said estimate offering means.

14. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 13, wherein said estimating means comprises:

a unit-price database for storing unit-price information of the material;

subtotal calculating means for calculating the subtotal of the material based on the unit-price information stored in said unit-price database and information on the purchased number of materials which is inputted by said material-buyer terminal; and

resale total calculating means for calculating the resale total by adding a resale fee to the subtotal, of the material, which is calculated by said subtotal calculating means.

15. An electronic commerce system according to Claim

14, wherein said estimating means comprises:

an exchange conversion master for storing an exchange rate which is arbitrarily updated; and

exchange converting means for exchange converting the subtotal of the material, which is calculated by said subtotal calculating means, based on the exchange rate stored in said exchange conversion master and a payment currency which is designated by the material buyer.

16. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 13, wherein said estimating means comprises:

transportation cost calculating means for calculating a transportation cost required for transportation from the material seller to the material buyer, based on the destination of the material which is inputted by said material-buyer terminal.

17. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 9, wherein said center device comprises:

managing means for acting for a management business of the material, after ordering, which is inputted by said material-buyer terminal as an agent of the material seller.

18. An electronic commerce system according to Claim 17, wherein said managing means obtains logistics

information of the material after ordering, from said material-seller terminal via the Internet, and offers the logistics information on the obtained material to said material-buyer terminal via the Internet.